

PRO

PROVIDENTLY. *adv.* [from *provident*.] With foresight; with
 Nature having designed water-fowls to fly in the air, and
 live in the water, she *providently* makes their feathers of such
 a texture, that they do not admit the water. *Boyle.*
PROVIDER. *n. f.* [from *providere*.] He who provides or pro-
 cures.

Here's money for my meat,
 I would have left it on the board, so soon
 As I had made my meal, and parted thence
 With prayers for the provider. *Shakefp.*

PROVINCE. *n. f.* [from *provincia*, Fr. *provincia*, Latin.]

1. A conquered country; a country governed by a delegate.
 Those *provinces* these arms of mine did conquer. *Shak.*
 Greece, Italy and Sicily were divided into commonwealths,
 till swallowed up, and made *provinces* by Rome. *Temple.*
 See them broke with toils, or sunk in ease,
 Or infamous for plunder'd *provinces*. *Pope.*
2. The proper office or business of any one.
 I am fit for honour's toughest task;
 Nor ever yet found fooling was my *province*. *Orway.*
 Nor can I alone sustain this day's *province*. *More.*
 'Tis thine, what'er is pleasant, good or fair;
 All nature is thy *province*, life thy care. *Dryden.*
 'Tis not the pretor's *province* to bellow
 True freedom. *Dryden's Persius.*
 'Tis the woman's *province* to be careful in her economy,
 and chaste in her affection. *Tatler.*
3. A region; a tract.

Over many a tract
 Of heav'n they march'd, and many a *province* wide. *Milt.*
 Their understandings are cooped up in narrow bounds;
 so that they never look abroad into other *provinces* of the in-
 tellectual world. *Watts's Improvement of the Mind.*

PROVINCIAL. *adj.* [from *provincial*, Fr. from *provincia*.]

1. Relating to a province.
 The duke dare not more stretch
 This finger of mine, than he dare rack his own;
 His hand's to me, not here *provincial*. *Shakefp.*
2. A pendant to the provincial country.
 Some have delivered the polity of spirits, and left an ac-
 count even to the *provincial* dominions. *Bacon.*
3. Not of the mother country; rude; unpolished.
 They build and treat with such magnificence,
 That, like th' ambitious monarchs of the age,
 They give the law to our *provincial* stage. *Dryden.*
 A country figure having only the *provincial* accent upon
 his tongue, which is neither a fault, nor in his power to re-
 medy, must marry a cast wench. *Swift.*
4. Belonging only to an archbishop's jurisdiction; not acume-
 nical.
 A law made in a *provincial* synod, is properly termed a
provincial constitution. *Aylmer's Paragon.*

PROVINCIAL. *n. f.* [from *provincia*, Fr. from *provincia*.] A spiritual
 governor.

Valignanus was *provincial* of the Jesuits in the Indies. *Still.*
TO PROVIDE. *v. n.* [from *providere*.] To turn to a pro-
 vince. A word not in use.

When there was a design to *proviniate* the whole king-
 dom, Druma, though officer a canton, would not accept
 of it. *Houart's Focal Fergil.*

TO PROVIDE. *v. n.* [from *providere*, Fr. *providere*.] To lay a stock or branch
 of a vine in the ground to take root for more encrease.

PROVISION. *n. f.* [from *provisio*, Fr. *provisio*, Latin.]

1. The act of providing beforehand.
 Kalander knew, that *provision* is the foundation of hospi-
 tality, and thence the jewel of magnificence. *Sidney.*
2. Measures taken beforehand.
 Five days we do allot thee for *provision*,
 To shield thee from disasters of the world. *Shakefp.*
 He preferred all points of humanity, in taking order and
 making *provision* for the relief of strangers distressed. *Bacon.*
 The prudent part is to propole remedies for the present
 evils, and *provisions* against future events. *Temple.*
 Religion lays the strictest obligations upon men, to make
 the best *provision* for their comfortable subsistence in this world,
 and their salvation in the next. *Tillotson.*
3. Accumulation of stores beforehand; stock collected.
 Mendoza advertised, that he would valiantly defend the
 city, so long as he had any *provision* of victuals. *Kneller.*
 In such abundance lies our choice,
 As leaves a greater store of fruit untouched,
 Still hanging incorruptible, till men
 Grow up to their *provision*. *Milton.*
 David, after he had made such vast *provision* of materials
 for the temple, yet because he had dirt his hands in blood,
 was not permitted to lay a stone in that sacred pile. *South.*
4. Victuals; food; provender.
 He could *provisions* to be brought in. *Clarendon.*
Provisions laid in large for man or beast. *Milton.*
5. Settlement; terms settled.
 This law was only to reform the degenerate English, but
 there was no care taken for the reformation of the mere Irish,

no ordinance, no *provision* made for the abolishing of the
 barbarous customs.

PROVISIONAL. *adj.* [from *provisio*, Fr. from *provisio*.] Tempo-
 rarily established; provided for present use.

The commendata fonsellus grew out of a natural enquiry,
 that, in the time of the patron's repose, he might be able to
 the church should not be without a *provisio* pastor. *Aylmer.*

PROVISIONALLY. *adv.* [from *provisio*, Fr. from *provisio*.] By way of provision.

The abbot of St. Martin was ban, was baptized, and
 declared a man *provisionally*, till he should show what he
 would prove, nature had moulded him to untowardly. *Locke.*

PROVISO. *n. f.* [Latin: a. *provisio* rem sua habiturum est.]

Supplication; caution; provisional condition.
 This *provisio* is needless, that the sheriff may not have the
 like power of life as the marshal hath. *Stanger.*

Some will allow the church no further power, than only
 to exhort, and this but with a *provisio* too, that it extends not
 to such as think themselves too wise to be advised. *South.*

He doth deny his prisoners,
 But with *provisio* and exception,
 That we, at our own charge, shall ransom strait
 His brother-in-law. *Shakefp. Henry IV.*

PROVOCATION. *n. f.* [from *provocatio*, Lat. *provocatio*, Fr. *provocation*.]

1. An act or cause by which anger is raised.
 It is a fundamental law, in the Turkish empire, that they
 may, without any other *provocation*, make war upon Christi-
 anism for the propagation of their law. *Bacon.*

Tempt not my swelling rage
 With black reproaches, scorn and *provocation*. *Shak.*

2. An appeal to a judge.
 A *provocation* is every act, whereby the office of the judge
 or his assistance is asked; a *provocation* including both a ju-
 dicial and an extrajudicial appeal. *Aylmer.*

3. I know not whether, in the following passage, it be *apud*
 or *mentem*.
 The *provisio* effects may grow in all towards their pastor, and
 in their puller towards every of them, between whom were
 daily and interchangeably put in the hearing of God himself,
 and in the presence of his holy angels, for the heavenly ac-
 clamations, exultations, and praises. *Watts.*

PROVOCATIVE. *n. f.* [from *provocatio*.] Any thing which re-
 vives a decayed or changed appetite.

There would be no variety of tastes to fill the palate,
 and occasion excess, nor any artificial *provocatives* to relieve
 satiety. *Aylmer.*

PROVOCATIVENESS. *n. f.* [from *provocatio*.] The quality of
 being provocative.

TO PROVOKE. *v. n.* [from *provocare*, Fr. *provocare*, Latin.]

1. To rouse; to excite by stimulating or offensive; to awake.
 Ye *provoke* me unto wrath, burning incense unto other
 Gods. *Jer. xiv. 8.*
2. To anger; to enrage; to irritate; to incense.
 Neither to *provoke* nor dread
 New war *provoked*. *Milton.*
 To whet their courage, and their rage *provokes*. *Dryden.*
 I neither fear, nor will *provoke* the war. *Dryden.*

3. To cause; to promote.
 Of contumacy will *provoke* the highest. *Milton.*
 Agamemnon *provokes* Apollo against them, whom he was
 willing to appease afterwards. *Pope.*

4. To challenge.
 He now *provokes* the sea-gods from the shore,
 With envy Trion heard the martial sound,
 And the bold champion for his challenge down'd. *Dryden.*

5. To induce by motive; to move; to incite.
 We may not be startled at the breaking of the exterior
 earth; for the face of nature hath *provoked* men to think of
 and observe such a thing. *Burnet's Theory of the Earth.*

TO PROVOKE. *v. n.*
 1. To appeal. A Latinism.
 Arius and Pelagius *provoked* the
 To what the centurie preceding spoke. *Dryden.*

2. To produce anger.
 It was not your brother's evil disposition made him seek his
 death, but a *provoked* merit. *Shakefp. King Lear.*

3. To produce anger.
 The Lord abhorred them, because of the *provoked* of his
 sons. *Dryden's Annals.*

4. To produce anger.
 If we consider man in such a loathsome and *provoking* con-
 dition, was it not love enough, that he was permitted to en-
 joy a being. *South.*

PROVOKER. *n. f.* [from *provocare*.]

1. One that raises anger.
 As in all civil intestine wars, the single actor is less
 with a peculiar severity, so, in this case, the first *provoker*
 has done more than the rest. *Gibbon's History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire.*

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2. Causer; promotor.
 Drink, Sir, is a great *provoker* of nosleeping, sleep, and
 urine. *Shakefp. Macbeth.*

PROVOKINGLY. *adv.* [from *provoking*.] In such a manner as
 to raise anger.

When we see a man that yesterday kept a humiliation, to-
 day invading the possessions of his brethren, we need no other
 proof how hypocritically and *provokingly* he confess'd his
 pride. *Deay of Pity.*

PROVOST. *n. f.* [from *provost*, Sax. *provost*, Fr. *provost*, Ital.
provost, Lat.]

1. The chief of any body: as, the provost of a college.
 2. The executioner of an army.

Kingston, *provost* marshal of the king's army, was deemed
 not only cruel but inhuman in his executions. *Hayward.*

PROVOSTSHIP. *n. f.* [from *provost*.] The office of a provost.

C. Pico first rose, and afterwards was advanced to the
provostship of Rome by Tiberius. *Hakewill.*

PROV. *n. f.* [from *prova*, Fr. *prova*, Spanish; *prova*, Lat.] The head
 or forepart of a ship.

The sea-victory of Vespasian was a lady holding a palm
 in her hand, at her foot the *prova* of a ship. *Peacham.*

Straight to the Dutch he turns his dreadful *prova*,
 More fierce th' important quarrel to decide. *Dryden.*

PROV. *adj.* Valiant. *Stephen.*

PROV. *n. f.* [from *prova*, Italian; *prova*, Fr.] Bravery;
 valour; military gallantry.

Men of such *prova*, as not to know fear in themselves,
 and yet to teach it in others that should deal with them; for
 they had often made their lives triumph over most terrible
 dangers, never dismayed, and ever fortunate. *Sidney.*

I hope
 That your wisdom will direct my thought,
 Or that your *prova* can me yield relief. *Pope.*

By heav'n's mere grace, not by our *prova* done. *F. Qu.*
 Henry the fifth, *Shakefp.*
 By his *prova* conquered all France. *Shakefp. Henry VI.*

But that 'tis shewn in treason. *Shakefp. Henry VI.*
 Those are they
 First seen in acts of *prova* eminent,
 And great exploits; but of true virtue void. *Milton.*

These beyond compare of mortal *prova*. *Milton.*
 Michael of celestial armies prince;
 And thou in military *prova* next,
 Gabriel! *Milton's Par. Lost, l. vi.*

The vigour of this arm was never vain,
 And that my wonted *prova* I retain,
 Whence these heaps of slaughter on the plain. *Dryden.*

These were the entertainments of the sister nations, that
 fill under the virtue and *prova* of the two last empires. *Temp.*

PROV. *adj.* [The superlative formed from *prova*, *adj.*]

1. Brave; in a valiant.
 They be two of the *prova* knights on ground,
 And oft approv'd in many a hard assay,
 And oke of surest steel, that may be found,
 Do arm yourself against that day them to confound. *F. Qu.*

2. Brave; valiant.
 The fairest of her sex, Angelica,
 His daughter, fought by many *prova* knights. *Milton.*

TO PROWL. *v. n.* Of this word the etymology is doubtful:
 the old dictionaries write *prole*, which the dramatist *Cambden*
 derives from *prole*, ready, quick. *Skinner*, a far more
 judicious etymologist, deduces it from *prole*, a diminutive
 formed by himself from *prole*, to prey, Fr. perhaps it may
 be formed, by accidental corruption, from *prole*. *To rove*
 over.

He *prows* each place, still in new colours deckt,
 Sucking one's ill, another to infect. *Sidney.*

TO PROWL. *v. n.* To wander for prey; to prey; to plunder.
 The champion robbeth by night,
 And *prows* and flieth by day. *Temple.*

Nor do they bear to quietly the loss of some part be con-
 sidered abroad, as the great detriment which they suffer by
 some *prowing* vice-admiral or publick minister. *Raleigh.*

As when a *prowing* wolf,
 Whom hunger drives to seek new haunt for prey. *Milton.*
 Shall he, who looks crest on heav'n,
 E'er stoop to mingle with the *prowing* herd,
 And dip his tongue in gore. *Thomson.*

And here the full attorney *prows* for prey. *Anon.*

PROWLER. *n. f.* [from *prowl*.] One that roves about for
 prey.

On churchyards drear,
 The disappointed *proowler* fell, and dig
 The shroud body from the grave. *Thomson.*

PROXIMATE. *adj.* [from *proximus*, Lat.] Next in the series of
 relation; near and immediate: opposed to remote and
 mediate.

Writing a theory of the deluge, we were to show the *prox-*
 imate natural causes of it. *Burnet's Theory of the Earth.*

Substance is the remote genus of bird, because it agrees
 not only to all kinds of animals, but also to things inanimate;
 but animal is the *proximate* or nearest genus of bird, because
 it agrees to fewest other things. *Watts's Logic.*

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PROXIMATE. *adv.* [from *proximate*.] Immediately; with-
 out intervention.

The consideration of our mind, which is incorporeal, and
 the contemplation of our bodies, which have all the cha-
 racters of excellent contrivance; these alone easily and *prox-*
 imately guide us to the wife author of all things. *Bentley.*

PROXIMATE. *adj.* [from *proximus*, Lat.] Next; immediate.

A syllogism is made up of three propositions, and these of
 three terms variously joined: the three terms are called the
 remote matter of a syllogism, the three propositions the
proximate or immediate matter of it. *Watts's Logic.*

PROXIMITY. *n. f.* [from *proximitas*, Fr. *proximitas*, from *proximus*,
 Lat.] Nearness.

When kingdoms have customably been carried by right of
 succession, according to *proximity* of blood, the violation of
 this course hath always been dangerous. *Hayward.*

If he plead *proximity* of blood,
 That empty title is with ease withstood. *Dryden.*

Add the convenience of the situation of the eye, in respect
 of its *proximity* to the brain, the seat of common sense. *Ray.*

I can call to my assistance
Proximity, mark that I and distance. *Prior.*

Must we send to stab or poison all the popish princes, who
 have any pretended title to our crown by the *proximity* of
 blood? *Swift's Miscellanies.*

PROXY. *n. f.* [By contraction from *procurator*.]

1. The agency of another.
2. The substitution of another; the agency of a substitute; ap-
 pearance of a representative.

None acts a friend by a deputy, or can be familiar by
proxy. *South's Sermons.*

Had Hyde thus fat by *proxy* too,
 As Venus once was said to do,
 The painter must have search'd the skies,
 To match the lull of her eyes. *Gravill.*

3. The person substituted or deputed.
 A wife man will commit no business of importance to a
proxy, where he may do it himself. *L'Estrange.*

PRUCE. *n. f.* [*Pruce* is the old name for Prussia.] Prussian
 leather.

Some leathern bucklers use
 Of folded hides, and others shields of *pruce*. *Dryden.*

PRUDE. *n. f.* [*prude*, Fr.] A woman over nice and scrupulous,
 and with false affectation.

The graver *prude* sinks downward to a gnomie,
 In search of mischief, still on earth to roam. *Pope.*

Not one careless thought in rudeness,
 Less modest than the speech of *prudes*. *Swift.*

PRUDENCE. *n. f.* [*prudencia*, Fr. *prudencia*, Lat.] Wisdom
 applied to practice.

Under *prudence* is comprehended, that discrete, apt, suit-
 ing, and disposing as well of actions as words, in their due
 place, time and manner. *Peacham.*

Prudence is principally in reference to actions to be done,
 and due means, order, season, and method of doing or not
 doing. *Hale.*

PRUDENT. *adj.* [from *prudens*, Fr. *prudens*, Lat.]

1. Practically wise.
 The simple inherit folly, but the *prudent* are crowned with
 knowledge. *Pr. v. xiv. 18.*
 I have seen a son of Jesse, that is a man of war, and *pru-*
 dent in matters. *1 Sam. xvi. 18.*

2. The monarch prevented all reply,
Prudent, lest others might offer. *Milton.*

3. Foreseeing by natural instinct.
 So steers the *prudent* crane
 Her annual voyage. *Milton.*

PRUDENTIAL. *adj.* [from *prudens*.] Eligible on principles of
 prudence.

He acts upon the surest and most *prudential* grounds, who,
 whether the principles, which he acts upon, prove true or
 false, yet secures a happy issue to his actions. *South.*

Motives are only *prudential*, and not demonstrative. *Tillot.*
 These virtues, though of excellent use, some *prudential* rules
 it is necessary to take with them in practice. *Rogers.*

PRUDENTIALS. *n. f.* Maxims of prudence or practical
 wisdom.

Many stanzas, in poetick measures, contain rules relating
 to common *prudentials*, as well as to religion. *Watts.*

PRUDENTLY. *adv.* [from *prudens*.] Discreetly; judiciously.

The laws were so *prudently* framed, as they are found fit
 for all succeeding times. *Bacon's Henry VII.*